National Literacy Mission Authority with a time frame of providing functional literacy to 80 million adult illiterates by 1995. In the meantime, with improvements in the socio-economic environment in the country and rise in the general awareness towards usefulness of literacy, it is expected that the literacy rate in the country will pick up to an appreciable level. It may not, however, be possible to give a definite time schedule as numerous factors work for and against achievement of the target.

Inter-regional transfers of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan teachers on medical grounds

3265. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 1501 given in the Rajya Sabha on 8th March, 1989 and state:

(a) what is the interpretation of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan regarding the term 'terminal illness';

(b) whether all the 23 teachers who were allowed inter-regional transfers before 20th November, 1988 on compassionate grounds are covered by the said interpretation of the term;

(c) if so, what are the details of illness in each case; and

(d) the details of illness of teachers whose cases have been advocated by All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association after 20th November, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P SHAHI): (a) The term "terminal illness" is intended to cover cases where chances of survival are less.

(b) No Sir. Upto 20-11-88 the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan effected transfers on various grounds, including medical grounds. Therefore, upto 20-11-88 it was not necessary for each transfer made on medical grounds to be covered by 'terminal illness'.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) 12 cases of illness were taken up by All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers' Association. However, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan rules governing recognition of association of employees require that the Association shall not espouse or support the cause of the individual employee (s) of the Sangathan relating to services matters. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan will consider these cases on merits.

Setting up of more Hostel in Delhi

3266. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up ten more five star hotels and 20 two-three star hotels in Delhi in the near future;

(b) if so, the sites selected and details thereof;

(c) by when these hotels are expected to be ready;

(d) whether there is any proposal to return erstwhile Akbar Hotel building of NDMC to ITDC and revive the hotel in view of the increasing tourist rush; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) It has been estimated that by 1991 Delhi would need 4000 additional rooms in different star category of hotels.

Accordingly Delhi Administration has identified some sites for hotels which will be allotted by them to entrepreneurs. These sites are likely to be located in different parts of Delhi. The date of completion of the hotels will depend on the action plan of the promoters

(d) and (e) The Akbar Hotels building was handed over to the Ministry of External Affairs in April 1986 for use as office space. A request was made to them for transfer of the building back to ITDC for operating it as a hotel. But this request has not been agreed to.

Breast fed Infants

3267. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated population of Infants exclusively breast fed in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that in many countries, the position is far superior in this regard, as per UNICEF Report of 1988; and

(c) whether Government have any specific plans for improvement of this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No country-wide estimate of infants exclusively breast fed, is available.

(b) The UNCIEF report 1988 does not contain information on breast fed infants in India. However, as per UNICEF report, 1986, the precentage of mothers breast feeding is more in developing countries than in the developed countries.

(c) Government of India has adopted the Indian National Code for Protection and Promotion of Breast Feeding in 1983. The infant Milk Foods and Feeding Bottles (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Bill, 1986, which seeks to protect and promote breast feeding has been passed by the Rajya Sabha Further action is being taken to get the Bill passed in the current session of Parliament.

Through the ICDS programme, the nursing and expectant mothers are encouraged to prolong breast feeding. The Health Ministry's "Manual of Health Workers", stresses the importance of breast feeding, and education on breast-feeding is provided to mothers by the health workers.

Non-preservation of Lechan Palkar, Palace by A.S.I.

3268. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India have declared in May, 1982, the Lechan Palkar, the mud palace of Leh as one of the National importance and brought under Government protection;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that a large portion of the palace, which is a finest example of the Tibetan architecture, has collapsed and that the palace is in a dilapidated condition;

(c) if so, what efforts have been made so far stating the annual amount spent, on preserving the palace since it came under Government protection; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to save the palace from total destruction and also to fix responsibility for its gross negligence,